

Comments for RM 10781 through RM 10787

I have been a Ham radio operator since 1965 and a Amateur Extra since 1977. I am active on SSB, FM and CW.

I believe that Element 1 (minimal CW proficiency) should not be required for any Amateur radio license. CW is a mode of operation. The FCC does not test for a persons ability to operate other modes of operation like SSB or RTTY. Testing for CW is not needed to be a good radio operator.

I have been involved with emergency traffic for a number of hurricanes and the earth quake in Mexico a few years ago. All the traffic was sent by SSB and FM. None of the traffic that the group of Amateurs I was working with was sent by CW. CW is no good during an emergency if the person on the other end of the circuit does not know CW which already is the case for many foreign countries.

Elimination of CW testing will help National Emergency Preparedness by helping to increase the number of amateur radio operators. Most of the help during the 911 disaster in NYC was done on FM radio, not CW.

Please consider that US citizens who have not gotten their Amateur license because of the CW proficiency test probably are not going to make comments to these petitions for rule making. Your results are not going to be for the full U.S. population but skewed towards people who already have passed the test.

Thomas F. Lewis  
10709 Martha's way  
Raleigh, NC 27615-1311